

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

November 24, 2015

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20250

Dear Secretary Vilsack:

Thank you for your efforts to promote U.S. agriculture abroad. As you know, the strength of our domestic producers lies in both their know-how to grow top quality products and their skill in maximizing these products through value-added processes.

It has come to my attention Nebraska Prime of Hastings, Nebraska, continues to pursue the appropriate certifications to provide kosher meat products for international markets, including Israel. As part of this process, once a processor has met U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) requirements USDA may transmit this information to their counterparts internationally. With this in mind, I respectfully request USDA make such a transmission on behalf of Nebraska Prime to your counterparts in Israel when they have met USDA's requirements, as you would for any compliant firm.

Again, thank you for your work on behalf of America's producers. Please contact Josh Jackson in my office at (202) 225-6435 or josh.jackson@mail.house.gov with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



ADRIAN SMITH
Member of Congress

AMS/jj